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CONTACT:
SWCD Planning Technician, Jeremy Paris
Phone: 585-753-7380
Email: jeremyparis@monroecounty.gov

Announcing the Application Cutoff Dates for the Genesee River Sediment and Phosphorus Reduction Program

Rochester, N. Y., 5/19/2017 – The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), in partnership with NY State Department of Agriculture and Markets, the Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and NY State Department of Environmental Conservation, is offering an opportunity for producers in the Genesee River watershed to apply for financial assistance to address resource concerns associated with sediment and phosphorus runoff from agricultural lands.

“We are proud to work with NRCS, our Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to address a critical need in our State”, said Richard A. Ball, The NYS Agriculture Commissioner. “Through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, we will have an opportunity to improve soil and water quality, and protect aquatic habitats and human health by keeping harmful pollutants out of the Genesee River. This project represents a primary goal of New York’s Oceans and Great Lakes Initiative, to collectively combat threats to our Great Lakes ecosystem and preserve our vital watersheds for generations to come.”

Funding is available to agricultural producers for implementing practices that reduce nutrient runoff, sedimentation, and enhance wildlife habitat. Local Partners and NRCS offices will work together to provide assistance to producers in the project area in planning and implementing conservation practices.

This RCPP partnership announces **June 16, 2017** as the application cutoff date for the first round of funding. All applications are competitive and are ranked based on locally identified resource priorities and the overall benefit to the environment.

Interested landowners should contact their local NRCS office for additional information and to obtain an application.

As part of application process, all landowners will need to complete USDA eligibility requirements. To find information on EQIP Eligibility please visit:

http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ny/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=nrcs144p2_027069 .

If you are interested in applying for an NRCS conservation program please visit the NRCS web site for information at:

http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ny/programs/?cid=nrcs144p2_027058 .

You may apply by visiting your local NRCS field office, which can be located using the web site: <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=NY> .